#### Introduction

One in six Nevadans of all ages are food insecure and do not have access to enough food to maintain an active, healthy life.

It is incumbent on our society to ensure that each individual has access to healthy nutrition because it contributes to our quality of life, a strong citizenry, resilient communities and a robust economy. Nevadans should be able to acquire nutritious foods in socially acceptable ways, including the most vulnerable community members, low income children and senior citizens.

Leaders from government agencies, non-profit organizations and the private sector have joined forces to establish a strategic plan to increase food security in Nevada using the following core principles:

- Incorporate economic development opportunities into food security solutions.
- Use a comprehensive, coordinated approach to ending hunger and promoting health and nutrition, rather than just providing emergency short-term assistance.
- Focus on strategic partnerships among all levels of government, communities, non-profit organizations, including foundations, private industries, universities, and research institutions.
- Use available resources in a more effective and efficient way.
- Implement research-based strategies to achieve measurable results.

Subcommittees have been established based on the categories identified in the Food Security Strategic Plan. Membership for the subcommittees has also been determined and is listed on the following pages. Goals identified in the Food Security Strategic Plan were ranked by survey to determine the priority of the Governor's Council on Food Security's strategic direction, also listed on the following pages.

LEAD: Systems and Policy	.Pages 2 and 3
FEED: Access to Food	.Pages 4 and 5
GROW: Producing Nutritious Food in Nevada	Pages 6 and 7
REACH: Food Distribution and Data Collection	Pages 8 and 9

#### **LEAD: Systems and Policy**

Kevin Hooks, Director, Las Vegas Urban League
Dale Erquiaga, Superintendent, Nevada Department of Education
Guy Hillyer, Executive, Cannery Casino Resorts
Sarah Adler, State Director, Nevada USDA Rural Development
Kenneth Osgood, MD, Member-at-Large, Southern Nevada Health District

**Food Security Plan Goal 1** – Establish the systems and positions necessary to implement a permanent, sustainable, accountable state leadership structure for food security to increase all Nevadans' understanding, value and support of food security solutions.

LEAD: Priority Goals per Survey	LEAD: Completed Goals	LEAD: Other Goals
Promote a state policy encouraging outreach which draws down additional federal/grant dollars.	Establish an Office of Food Security in the Director's Office of the Department of Health and Human Services.	Secure technical assistance to evaluate and identify optimal business processes for Nevada's food security system including state agencies, food banks, and regional and local nonprofits in order to determine the role each plays in closing the meal gap.
Determine baseline status for all goals in the Food Security plan.	Create a Statewide Food Policy Advisory Council that links to and leverages regional and local community-based efforts.	
Create an evaluation plan to measure progress on increasing food security in Nevada.	Support the consolidation of appropriate USDA programs under the Nevada Department of Agriculture to improve efficiency and effectiveness.	
Coordinate and resolve issues with state and non-state agencies, measuring and reporting on progress in increasing food security for Nevadans on an annual basis.		
Fill staffing and technology capacity needs in state agencies to optimize and expedite access to resources.		

## **Food Security Plan Goal 2 –** *Promote a policy agenda to increase food security in Nevada.*

LEAD: Priority Goals per Survey	LEAD: Completed Goals	LEAD: Other Goals
Establish a multi-agency resource team to pursue innovative solutions, demonstration projects and funding, available through the federal government, foundations or other sources to increase the number of people fed and close the meal gap.	Adopt a policy to authorize CNP, SNAP, and WIC to utilize all of the available opportunities established by USDA.	Promote policies on a state and local level to encourage Nevada farm products to enter systems that serve Nevadans including institutions, schools, senior centers, and child care centers by promoting policies (develop a menu of model polices/regulations).
Develop and implement a campaign to increase the public's awareness of food and nutrition resources, remove the stigma associated with receiving food assistance, and ensure that Nevada policymakers are aware of benefits from available nutrition programs.		Policy Council review and update plan.
Research and develop a menu of model policies/regulation options to promote food security in Nevada.		
Promote policies on a state and local level to encourage Nevada farm products to enter systems that serve Nevadans including institutions, schools, senior centers, and child care centers by promoting policies (develop a menu of model polices/regulations).		

#### **FEED: Access to Food**

Amy Hill, Walmart, Government Relations Cherie Jamason, CEO, Food Bank of Northern Nevada Kathleen Sandoval, First Lady, State of Nevada Donnell Barton, Child Nutrition Services, State of Nevada Christy McGill, Director, Healthy Communities Coalition

#### **Food Security Plan Goal 1** – *Maximize participation in each federal nutrition program available to the state.*

FEED: Priority Goals per Survey	FEED: Completed Goals	FEED: Other Goals
Feed more children through increased participation in in-school meal programs and establish accountability measures.		Expand partnerships between regional food banks and commodities programs to effectively utilize and deliver all USDA commodities programs along with fresh produce.
Create partnerships and sponsorships to feed more children through out of school meal programs and daycare centers using Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) and Summer Food Service Program (SFSP).		Assess and implement a single, statewide database system that integrates with other information and service systems (e.g. 2-1-1, Federal Nutrition Programs).
Replicate effective models to increase rural capacity for children's out of school meal programs.		Collaborate with the Consumer Assistance Committee of the Silver State Health Insurance Exchange on a single point entry/application process for multiple assistance programs across systems.
Assist school districts and charter schools with implementing the state's wellness policy and support the Office of Child Nutrition Programs' enforcement of the policy.		Create a strategic partnership between WIC and SNAP to maximize caseloads.

**Food Security Plan Goal 2** – Establish and integrate an actual or virtual "one-stop-shop" system to increase access to food and other services for food insecure Nevadans.

FEED: Priority Goals per Survey	FEED: Completed Goals	FEED: Other Goals
Strengthen partnerships and increase efficiency to implement a "one-stop-shop" for all assistance programs.		
Increase the number of services providers and places within a community and neighborhood to increase access points to healthy food by food insecure people who may be ineligible for federal nutrition programs.		
Expand partnerships linked to a "one-stop-shop" to address risk factors that increase food insecurity.		

#### **GROW: Producing Nutritious Food in Nevada**

Steve Hill, Director, Nevada Governor's Office of Economic Development Wendy Baroli, Owner, Girl Farms
Mary Liveratti, President, Nevada AARP
Jim Barbee, Director, Nevada Department of Agriculture
Mike McMahon, Administrator, Nevada Welfare and Supportive Services
Mark Walker, Dean, University of Nevada, Cooperative Extension

**Food Security Plan Goal 1—** *Increase the number of servings of nutritious foods consumed by Nevadans – with emphasis on foods that are produced in Nevada.* 

GROW: Priority Goals per Survey	GROW: Completed Goals	GROW: Other Goals
Use identified aggregation, processing, and distribution capacity to pilot the utilization of local foods into the food security networks and Nevada institutions (e.g. Farm to School, Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program).		Support and expand model programs and partnerships (e.g. school gardens, community gardens, and small food plots) to supplement a household's supply of fresh produce or encourage entrepreneurial efforts, with a focus on individuals utilizing the food security network.
Develop an education and marketing plan to encourage consumption of nutritious, local foods, focused on individuals that utilize the food security network.		Encourage local producers to establish aggregation centers to increase retail and wholesale sales.
		Develop a food system asset map (inventory) to catalog existing food resources and potential resources in the state that could be leveraged further.
		Analyze the asset map, prioritize and recommend investment and collaboration opportunities to increase food security and its economic impact.

GROW: Priority Goals per Survey	GROW: Completed Goals	GROW: Other Goals
		Work with producers and other stakeholders to identify and address barriers preventing the production, sale, and use or expansion of local foods.

#### **REACH: Food Distribution and Data Collection**

David Weaver, US Foods Richard Whitley, Administrator, Nevada Public and Behavioral Health Jodi Tyson, Three Square Adam Kramer, Supernap Mike Wurm, CEO, Boys and Girls Club of Truckee Meadows

**Food Security Plan Goal 1** – Change the current models of purchase (commodities) and distribution of nutritious foods to increase economies of scale, and link frequency of deliveries, and availability of local food to the specific needs of communities throughout the state (rural, urban, and food deserts).

REACH: Priority Goals per Survey	REACH: Completed Goals	REACH: Other Goals
Conduct a comprehensive benefit analysis study of the current state and nonprofit commodity/food delivery system that includes cost efficiency, frequency of delivery, and recommendations.	Establish a "one-stop-shop" for agencies to acquire produce and other foods from regional food banks and expand nutritious food options beyond what is available for free through commodities programs.	Develop a comprehensive client/community food supply assessment to determine what organizations, agencies and groups are providing services as well as the frequency and schedule of deliveries to determine efficiencies and opportunities for streamlining food distribution processes. (Refer also to 1.c under Grow.)
		Use food asset maps to develop a coordinated distribution delivery process, establish a network to enable a truck to reach several areas in a single trip and ultimately provide more food to communities.

**Food Security Plan Goal 2** – Develop the technology to connect and share data among multiple state agencies, regional food banks, community agencies, and faith-based organizations for efficient and effective targeting of services and populations.

REACH: Priority Goals per Survey	REACH: Completed Goals	REACH: Other Goals
		Use data and information from the shared software system to track client services, program utilization, and target new distribution points based on needs.